



(Clockwise from bottom) *Bidri* ware,
Pavitra Rajaram for Good Earth.
Chair, Alankaram.
Vase, Nicobar.

Bird cage and tables, courtesy Punit Jasuja,
Second Floor Studio.

BIDRI WARE BY PAVITRA RAJARAM

"My work is deeply influenced by my experience of life as a woman. It is often about offering a different perspective on classical ideas. In my experiment with *bidri*, I looked at the idea of inlay in an elemental way and shifted the focus to the base metal; an alloy of zinc and copper rather than the silver used to create the inlay. That took me back to the simplicity of three dots, primitive arrow symbols, and the Brahmani bull and Palaeolithic tools. Through that I tried to create an entirely modern story."



BAMBOO SILK IKAT BY MADHU JAIN

"I am acutely aware that when women take on change-making roles, the result can be long-lasting and impactful. In my quest to redefine eco-friendly clothing that incorporates sustainability—from procurement to production—it took me years of research and development to create a 100 percent biodegradable textile which left a negligible carbon footprint. It drapes effortlessly, and its luxurious, sensuous softness only asserts that comfort and style need not be mutually exclusive." ■

(Clockwise from right) Ikat sari and *juttis*, Madhu Jain. Vessel, Good Earth. Tables, Alankaram. Vases and lantern, Nicobar. Diya and pedestal, Good Earth.

Chair and hook bar, courtesy Punit Jasuja, Second Floor Studio.

So **BAZAAR**

A LABOUR OF LOVE

From designing a luscious ikat with a light carbon footprint to weaving steel wires into a sculptural sari—women are driven by a different set of values. Bazaar showcases their unique feminine perspectives.

Photographs by IRINA USOVA

THE CUBBONPET SARI BY PAVITHRA MUDDAYA

"For me, revival is important only when it helps a weaver's livelihood. The Cubbonpet sari is named after a region in Tamil Nadu. When we went searching for a weaver who knew the technique, we found an old man who said that he remembered it being woven when he was a child of seven. Imagine how far back this weave goes. Elephant and tree motifs, a 10-inch border with temple checks—the Cubbonpet is a rare gem."

(From left) Cubbonpet Sari,
Pavithra Muddaya. Silkworm
Cocoons, Zahara Skincare.

Loom, courtesy Gaurav Jai Gupta.



(Clockwise from top left) Sari, jacket,
and skirt, Rimzim Dadu.
Vases, Nicobar and Good Earth.

Table, courtesy Punit Jasuja,
Second Floor Studio.

STEEL WIRE TEXTILE BY RIMZIM DADU

"My design philosophy revolves around the strength of the material. I constantly try to re-engineer materials and play with their structure and flow. From far, my metal wire textiles look structured and stiff, almost like an armour. But a closer look and touch reveal that they are actually very malleable and soft. My pieces are a mix of handcrafted techniques and new-age material, disrupting the idea that all craft from India is only traditional." ➤